

GREAT LAKES BULLETIN



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**2006
CHINFO
Merit
Awards**

Volume 85
No. 25

*The United States Navy's oldest,
continuously published base newspaper*

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Change service requested

AROUND NAVSTA



BIG 4TH

Celebration planned
PAGE 22



SAFETY STAND DOWN

Sailors asked to think
safety this summer
PAGE 2



FOOD DRIVE

Non-perishable foods
needed.
PAGE 3

RTC's latest training tool

USS Trayer commissioned amid fanfare / Page 20



Photo by Scott A. Thornbloom

USS Trayer (BST 21) crewmembers man the rail during the commissioning ceremony for the Navy's newest simulator at Recruit Training Command June 18. Trayer along with Battle Stations 21, where the commissioning crewmembers work as facilitators, is the culmination of all training received at the Navy's only boot camp. It is a grueling 12-hour test, now held entirely in the Arleigh Burke-class destroyer simulator, of a recruit's skills in several shipboard evolutions, including fighting fires and stopping floods. It is also the final evolution that marks the recruit's final rite of passage into the Navy. For the story turn to page 20.

About us Great Lakes BULLETIN

Volume 83, No. 25

The **Great Lakes Bulletin** is published every Friday by Lake County Journals, 34121 N. Route 45, Suite 224, Grayslake, IL 60030, in the interest of military and civilian personnel aboard Naval Station, Great Lakes.

EDITORIAL

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ADVERTISING

Lake County Journals
34121 N. Route 45, Suite 224
Grayslake, IL 60030
(847) 223-8161

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All commercial advertising is arranged at the office of the publisher Lake County Journals, 34121 N. Route 45, Suite 224, Grayslake, IL 60030 847-223-8161. **The Great Lakes Bulletin** has a circulation of 14,000. Subscription information is also available from the publisher.

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Rear Adm. Jon W. Bayless, Jr.
Commander NRMW
Capt. R.J. Postera
Commanding Officer
Lt. Cmdr. Melissa Schuermann
Public Affairs Officer
Paul Engstrom
Managing Editor

Factual accuracy

Accuracy is important to us at the **GREAT LAKES BULLETIN** and we want to correct mistakes promptly. If you believe a factual error has been published, please bring it to our attention. Call Paul Engstrom at 847-688-4808

NAVSTA, RTC hold annual safety stand-downs

BY JIM BOYLAN AND
JUDY R. LAZARUS
Bulletin Associate Editors

Naval Station Great Lakes held its safety stand-down recently, at Recruit Training Command on May 24 and main-side on June 14.

Over 1,400 Sailors attended the RTC mandatory event, "The Critical Days of Summer," at the Pacific Fleet Drill Hall, Bldg. 7210.

Capt. Annie Andrews, commanding officer, opened the proceeding by noting that, "We must help to increase awareness during this vehicle safety campaign this summer. We have to develop good safety habits that include wearing of seat belts, not drinking and driving, and knowing your limitations."

The captain went on to say that if a Sailor is involved in an accident he or she must report the incident to the chain of command. "Do not be a statistic in 2207," she said. "Adhere to safety standings. Make a commitment. Summer is for fun and not the mourning of a loved one."

Speaking at Ross Auditorium last week, Capt. Richard Postera, commanding officer, NAVSTA, told the Sailors, "You are our target today."

He stressed safety on base. "Pedestrians have the right of way all the time," he noted. "Drivers should slow down. There is construction equip-

ment on the roads and workers all over the place."

Cell phone usage and headphones on walkers or joggers are not allowed, Postera emphasized, adding that driving privileges can be rescinded. He discussed the importance of motorcycle safety explaining that Great Lakes has a motorcycle mentoring program.

"We're not even deployed and we're losing people," the captain said. "Leadership across the board is the key to the whole thing. Our goal is 75-percent reduction in preventable accidents for 2008."

Department of Public Safety, Inspector Jim Triplett told the Sailors at Ross Auditorium, "I've seen it all. I've seen some horrific things, but I'm not here to scare anyone."

Triplett emphasized traffic and pedestrian safety.

"There's nothing more horrific than having to hold a family back from seeing the injured after an accident," he said. In one incident, where a Sailor was driving 108 miles an hour in North Chicago, Triplett said he found a speedometer 400 feet from the collision site.

Discussing pedestrian safety at Great Lakes, the inspector noted the importance of motorcyclists and bikers wearing reflective armbands at night, of drivers watching out for pedestrians, and of pedestrians looking around before walking into an intersection.



Photo by Judy R. Lazarus

The Naval Station crash dummy greets SK1 Greg Olsen prior to the Safety stand-down at Ross Auditorium.

He pointed out that police and fire department personnel on base must consistently update their driving abilities.

"Being prepared is your job," explained Tim Valle, emergency manager, NAVSTA. "Emergencies happen - floods, storms, tornadoes, fires, power outages. But not all dangers are acts of nature," he said. There are threats such as terrorism and chemical spills.

"Suppose you couldn't go home," he said. "There should be plans for you family."

Valle discussed an emergency management notification system. "We have limited capabilities at present but a new sys-

tem is being worked on," he said. This would include computer and voice notifications, indoor alerts, and sirens.

Plans must be made for emergency muster procedures, communication, shelters and safe havens for evacuees, and central points of contact for families, Valle said. "Planning is everything."

Jim Krouse, NAVSTA fire inspector, noted that most injuries occur during the first two weeks of July. Improper use of outdoor cooking grills, camp fires, and fireworks can pose a danger, he stressed.

See SAFETY, page 31

NAVFAC awards contract for federal health care facility construction

By BILL COUCH
NAVFAC Midwest Public Affairs

Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) Midwest is working with Joseph J. Henderson & Son, Inc., of Gurnee, Ill., on the first phase of construction to create the first-ever joint Navy/Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Federal Health Care Facility (FHCF) here.

The \$16 million contract, awarded May 25, includes construction of a staff parking area, four-story parking garage for patients, new site entryway

and traffic light on Green Bay Road, and utility work to prepare for the eventual addition of a new wing to the current North Chicago VA Medical Center.

"We are so proud to be moving forward on this project with J.J. Henderson," said Capt. Bob Gibbs, commanding officer of NAVFAC Midwest. "This is an unprecedented undertaking in terms of partnership between the VA and the Navy, and it's unprecedented in terms of benefits to our service members—past and present—and their families."

The Navy, VA and Henderson are currently finalizing plans for the project. A groundbreaking ceremony is being planned for July 2 to officially kick off construction at the VA site, and completion of the parking and infrastructure project is expected in October 2008.

The Naval health clinic on Naval Station Great Lakes is gradually merging operations with the existing VA staff and facilities. This will provide a full range of modernized medical and support resources for patients while at the same time

eliminating costly duplications that currently exist between the two nearby medical facilities. Following the addition of the new wing—under a separate contract that has not yet been offered—the facility will be the first to use a completely integrated VA/Navy staff and treat recruits, active-duty service members, retirees, family members and veterans.

The overall FHCF is planned for completion in 2010, and is expected to save approximately \$160 million over the projected 40-year life span of the facility.



Photo by S.A. Thornbloom

Rehearsing for the big music competition on July 7 are GRIT members, from left, Adam Clarke, singer; Mike Carlson, rhythm guitar; Andrew Nelson, drummer; Mike "LT" Potesta, lead guitar; and Trevor "Tito" Greene, bass.

Corpsman makes music with GRIT band mates

BY JUDY R. LAZARUS
Bulletin Associate Editor

HM3 Adam Clarke keeps busy with his two full-time jobs. The hospital corpsman, who is assigned to emergency services at Naval Health Clinic, is also lead singer for the band GRIT which will represent the Midwest in the National Emergenza Music Competition in Chicago on July 7. The band won the regional competition for this international battle of the bands in May.

"All of us want to make music for the rest of our lives," Clarke said. His band mates include Mike "LT" Potesta, lead guitar; Mike Carlson, rhythm guitar; Andrew Nelson, drummer; and Trevor "Tito" Greene, bass. Clarke is the newest member, having joined the band a year ago. The rest have been together for five years and are all graduates of Libertyville (Ill.) high school.

The band members write all their songs together.

"We're trying to make a different sound," Clarke said. Although they do not label themselves, their music could be considered alternative metal, he noted.

The band is in negotiation with producer and full-time musician Steven Gillis who used to play for the band Filter. "And we're working on a demo for

later this year," Clarke said.

"Music is an outlet," the corpsman explained. "You put your heart on your sleeve. Everything disappears but you and the music and the audience."

The singer appreciates the Navy's support.

"The Navy and the command have been very supportive," he declared. "The Navy really does care about its Sailors. They support you and your education and bettering your life. You can follow your dreams, though you understand the Navy mission comes first."

"I appreciate that the band members support my military service," the petty officer said. "We have a song called 'Freedom,' which is dedicated to those who gave their lives, especially in Iraq."

Clarke, a native of Orem, Utah, who enlisted in 2001, has served two back-to-back tours with the Marines in Iraq. He came to Great Lakes in 2005. The petty officer and his wife, Jamie, and sons, Jariston, 7, and Kayden, 4, live in Forrestal Village.

His wife is very supportive of his busy schedule, Clarke emphasized. "I have to juggle things, but the family is number one."

When he was with the Marines at 29 Palms, Clarke and others tried to start some

small bands, "But we kept getting deployed to Iraq," he recalled. He tried out as a singer before enlisting and decided that if he didn't make it he would join the Navy, which is what he did.

When he got to Great Lakes Clarke went on the Internet and found a band called GRIT. "I knew the music scene in Chicago was really good," he said. "Trevor said I could come out and listen to their sound. Something came over me when I heard them and I told my wife. 'I want to sing for that band.'"

But it took a while for this to happen.

Clarke was persistent. He kept showing up at the band's practices.

Their singer wasn't working out, so they listened to him. "But they didn't like what they heard so they went with someone else," he said.

Some months later the band was in a competition. Their singer quit and Clarke was asked if he wanted to fill in.

"I practiced and practiced. It was my first actual show, and it was before 1,300 people," he said.

But then the band's original singer wanted to return.

Clarke was upset. "But they told me to come anyway and I ended up doing one of the songs with them. The audience and my friends liked my work. They

said it was great."

As it turned out, the band's singer quit and Clarke was asked if he could do the rest of the shows. "We came in second in the competition," he recalled.

And the rest is history.

For further information about GRIT, visit www.GRITinc.com or access the band's MySpace page at www.myspace.com/gritinc.

Food drive wants your non-perishable food items

MWR, in partnership with the Bluejacket Memorial Chapel, is sponsoring the Red, White and Blue Food Drive from June 18 thru July 5. Non-perishable food items can be dropped off at the 2A Fitness Center or the Bluejacket Memorial Chapel.

Also, provisions have been made to accept donations at Ross Field on July 4th at the following locations. Drop boxes will be placed at the entrance of the Bluejacket Chapel on the north side of Ross Field and also accepted at the information booth in the Gazebo.

For the past three years, the Bluejacket Memorial Chapel and the 2A Fitness Center have partnered to conduct food drives for various civilian charities and food banks. Just some of the charities, churches, and food banks that have benefited from the past food drives are: Boy & Girls Club of America; North Chicago VA Hospital; Living Waters Church; Hurricane Katrina Disaster Victims; Waukegan Catholic Charities; Chicago Food Bank; USO/Numerous Military Families and Jesus Name Apostolic Church.

"We would like to increase and scale our efforts to base wide participation," said Rick Pierce. "Hunger is a very real thing. With the price of gasoline sky rocketing, there are families struggling to feed their children right here in Lake County. This 4th of July we can help and we can make a difference."

If you or your group would like to participate by putting out a box or helping in any way, please contact one of our volunteer staff. Chuckie Kelly at NAVFAC-MW at 688-2121, ext. 10; RP1 Aaron at Bluejacket Memorial Chapel, 688-2396 or Kenny Prince, Stephanie Randal or Pearce at the fitness center located in Bldg. 2A. Their phone number is 688-5649.

Navy moves to make IA assignments part of detailing process

From NPC PUBLIC AFFAIRS

MILLINGTON, Tenn. (NNS) — With the implementation of NAVADMIN 147/07 released June 7 removing Sailors from their current duty assignment to fill individual augmentee (IA) orders will gradually become the exception as the Navy moves to make most global war on terrorism (GWOT) support tours part of the normal detailing process.

“Bringing our support of the GWOT into the mainstream of our detailing processes is the right thing to do for our Sailors

and their families,” said Adm. John C. Harvey, Chief of Naval Personnel.

Phase One began in June for officers and will begin in August for enlisted Sailors. During this timeframe, Navy Personnel Command will start to bring about 1,200 Joint Manning Document (JMD) driven GWOT billets into the normal detailing process as they become open between September and December 2008. These billets account for about one-third of all the active duty IA requirements that exist today.

Phase Two will continue this

process, adding additional billets to make a total of about 80 percent of the IA requirements. Phase Three will add the emergent fill billets into the process, which currently consist of about 20 percent of the IA requirements.

Under these plans, Sailors would volunteer for an IA assignment at their Projected Rotation Date (PRD) and PCS to either San Diego or Norfolk where they will be attached to the Expeditionary Combat Readiness Center while they carry out their temporary duty GWOT Support Assignment (GSA).

“The desired end state is a Sailor assignment and distribution system which retains predictability for our Sailors and stability for our commands, yet is agile enough to respond to the requirements of our combatant commanders in the GWOT,” said Harvey.

According to Harvey, the current process of selecting Sailors to fill IA billets will continue in the short term, but as we transition into the new process, there will be less and less requirements for commands to pull Sailors mid-tour.

“Our existing IA process

meets mission and has matured to the point that we average nearly 60 days notice (to our Sailors),” said Harvey. “However, it also limits Sailor input into the process, masks unit level manning impacts, and its unpredictability breeds uncertainty and concern from the fleet.”

The new process is expected to improve the predictability of GWOT assignments, enable volunteerism, improve manning stability at the unit level, and add detailer involvement for oversight of professional development and career progression.

Sponsor assignment aid tool connects Sailors, new commands

By MCSA KEN INGRAM
NPC Public Affairs

MILLINGTON, Tenn. (NNS) — As Sailors prepare for summer rotations, Navy Personnel Command is encouraging them to use the Web-based Sponsor Assignment Aid (SAA) tool in seeking a sponsor from their gaining command.

The online application, located at <https://staynavytools.bol.navy.mil/SAA/>, helps active-duty members with permanent-change-of-station orders to get the answers they need before arriving at a new assignment.

“For young Sailors and their families who are relocating, and don’t know anyone or anything about the area they’re headed to — a move can be very intimidating,” said StayNAVY project manager, Randy Wyatt, who oversees the Sponsor Assignment Aid tool. “The SAA helps ease their anxiety by quickly connecting a transferring Sailor to their prospective command.”

After a service member submits a sponsor request, a notification e-mail is sent to the gaining command using the address on file with StayNAVY. For privacy’s sake, the member’s personal information is not provided in the e-mailed notification. The coordinator must click on a link inside the e-mail and log onto the secure, password-protected BUPERS Online. The coordinator will then use the information provided to assign a sponsor and contact the Sailor.

The inbound Sailor can check the status of the request by using the Sponsor Request Inquiry.

To ensure Sailors receive a response within seven days of their

request, the inquiry tool lists the contact information on file for the command. Sailors can then follow up directly with the coordinator.

To access the SAA from the Navy Personnel Command Web site (www.npc.navy.mil), click on ‘Career Info,’ then choose ‘StayNAVY,’ then ‘Career Tools.’ Once in ‘Career Tools,’ scroll down to the SAA and Sponsor Request Inquiry links.

The Sponsor Coordinator Update is also accessible from this page. This is the tool commands should use to provide StayNAVY with their contact information. Commands are urged to participate in the program by maintaining a sponsor coordinator point of contact.

According to Wyatt, the SAA tool is valuable to gaining commands too. It promotes two-way communication. Once a sponsor is assigned, a command can better track its incoming personnel through the information provided.

Coordinators can review and update the information on file with StayNAVY by accessing the sponsor coordinator update. The coordinator’s name, telephone number, and e-mail address are needed for every command. Since the tool uses e-mail to route a Sailor’s sponsor request to the new command, it’s essential that StayNAVY have a current e-mail address on file, Wyatt said.

“The full benefit of the SAA can only be realized if there is 100-percent participation from the sponsor coordinators at each command,” Wyatt said. For added networking, the sponsor coordinator update offers commands contact information for other coordinators as well.

Master Chief retires after 30 years

By SUSAN M. KOERNER
TSC Public Affairs

Celebrating over 30 years of military service was the focus of the retirement ceremony for DCCM Jesse Shelby at Training Support Center (TSC).

Shelby was feted June 15 in the Bluejacket Memorial Chapel during the retirement ceremony which included comments from both TSC’s commanding officer and command master chief.

“It’s clear that he loves his country and is passionate about the Navy,” said CMDCM William Vermillion, command master chief. “It’s clear he cares about people and knows how to motivate them.”

Shelby’s career in the Navy began here at Great Lakes when he graduated from boot camp in August of 1976. “When I first came here, I was told that I was too strong willed, too strong minded, but I learned to adapt,” he said.

As an African-American in the mid 1970’s Shelby said, “Things were a little bit rocky, maybe not always equal, but there was always an opportunity to make good choices, and the difference between me and that other person was knowledge, so I hit the manuals.”

As a fireman apprentice, Shelby reported to USS Kitty Hawk, then USS Forrestal, along with other shore duties and sea assignments, including direct support of Operation Desert Shield. In 2000, Shelby was assigned to Recruit Training Command (RTC) at Great Lakes where he served as



TSC Photo by Matt Mogle

DCCM Jesse Shelby gets piped ashore a final time during his retirement ceremony June 15.

a recruit division commander and base operations senior enlisted advisor. “I didn’t want to come back to Great Lakes; it’s cold and I’m from Mississippi,” he said. Following his tour at RTC, Shelby came to TSC, first to Surface School Command as the senior enlisted advisor for the engineering training department technical “A” schools. He was appointed as the first ever command master chief of the newly commissioned Center for Naval Engineering (CNE) and transferred from CNE and assumed duties as Business Administration Department master chief petty officer.

Throughout his career Shelby says what was important to him was discipline and the goal to make a difference in people’s lives. “I want to believe that I impacted everyone here, gave good advice and made a difference in their lives,” he said. “I want to let my shipmates know if you don’t

impact somebody, you’re not doing your job. Be sure to mentor others.”

As Shelby was presented his various awards, CMDCM Aloysius Nelson, Navy Region Midwest, said it was estimated that Shelby “touched the lives of over 350,000 Sailors who have come through the gates.”

“It’s not about me, it’s about taking care of the Sailors,” said Shelby.

Over the past 30 years, Shelby says there has been a lot of change. “We’ve become more diverse as far as cultures are concerned, we are also keeping more in line with modern technology, such as all the computer-based training for the Sailors. There are more resources available that help the Navy be technologically sound, and that helps us accomplish the mission where years ago it was more trial and error,” he said.

Even with the need for Sailors to be more adaptable with technology and changing missions, Shelby says deck plate leadership is still paramount. “We still need that deck plate leadership like I had to give guidance and develop courage and commitment. The biggest resource we have is still the Sailor, if equipment fails, or we have problems with technology, we go back to the basics to get things done.”

Shelby’s after-retirement plans include continuing to make a difference in people’s lives. In addition to pursuing a bachelor’s degree in business administration at Columbia University, he is also pursuing a ministerial degree at Illinois State University.

Honormen and Award Winners at the Recruit Graduation Review

Pictured are Award Recipients for this week:

Each honor graduate and award winner will receive the commanding officer's commemorative coin in recognition of their superlative achievements during recruit training. The honor graduates for this week's recruit review graduation are as follows:

SR Jinah Raheman, Division 207, Dallas, Texas
SR John Farren, Division 208, Austin, Texas
SR Ashley Cook, Division 209, Denver, Colo.
SR Shaun Wallace, Division 210, Orange, Fla.
SR Leslie Baldus, Division 930, Bozeman, Mont.

The recruit chief petty officers for this week's recruit review graduation are as follows:

SR Michael Riddick, Division 207, Chesapeake, Va.
SR Joshua Chandler, Division 208, Kings Bay, Ga.
SR Zeandria Thompson, Division 209, Monroe, La.
SR Jordyn Lee, Division 210, Swartz Creek, Mich.
SR Leslie Baldus, Division 930, Bozeman, Mont.



SR Brandon Powell, Div. 930
Kitty Hawk, N.C.
Academic Excellence Award



SR Bernardo Calvillofiguero,
Div. 207, McAllen, Texas
USO Shipmate Award



SR Joshua Chandler, Div. 208
Kings Bay, Ga.
Award of Merit



SR Michele Mercado-Sayson,
Div. 210, San Diego, Calif.
MOAA Leadership Award



SR Derek Bailey, Div. 930
Moreland, Ga.
Navy League Award



SR Courtney Lindlahr, Div. 930
Fresno, Calif.
Military Excellence Award

TSC SHIP IN THE SPOTLIGHT: USS MUSTIN

Ship's History:

USS Mustin was christened on Dec. 15, 2001 in Pascagoula, Miss. The ship is named for three generations of Mustin naval officers: Capt. Henry C. Mustin (1874-1923), Vice Adm. Lloyd M. Mustin (1911-99) and his sons, retired Vice Adm. Henry C. "Hank" Mustin and former Lt. Cmdr. Thomas M. Mustin.

Mustin is the 39th of 58 Arleigh Burke class destroyers and is operated by a crew of 383 sailors and officers. The 510-foot, 9,300-ton vessel, has an overall beam of 66.5 feet, and draws 31.9 feet. Four LM2500 GE gas-turbine engines propel the 9,300 ton ship. With a top

cruising speed above 30 knots, the destroyer is designed to handle a variety of missions. The ship carries surface-to-air missiles, Tomahawk cruise missiles, the radar-controlled Phalanx close-in weapons system, Harpoon anti-ship missiles, torpedo launchers, a 5-inch gun and state-of-the-art electronic warfare systems. The MK 41 Vertical Launching System, which fires Standard surface-to-air and Tomahawk surface-to surface missiles; and the AN/SQQ-89 Antisubmarine Warfare System, with a bow mounted AN/SQS-53C sonar. In addition, Mustin has six MK 46 torpedo tubes, as well as a multi-mission 5"/62 caliber deck-mounted gun which can be used as an anti-ship weapon, close-in point defense or in support of forces ashore with naval gunfire.

BEQ Stats:

1. Houses 160 males and 35 females attending Advanced Technical Training for Electronics Technician "A", Fire Controlman "A", Gunners Mate "A", Interior Communications Technician "A", Mineman "A", Sonar Technician "A", Airman "A" Culinary specialist and Star "21" schools.

2. Reopened Nov. 17.



Home

STAFF

Name: A22(AW) Talia Horne

Hometown: Largo, Md.

Age: 27

Previous commands: Travis AFB, Calif. / NAS Lemoore, Calif. / VP-45 Jacksonville, Fla.

Hobbies: Shopping, talking on the phone, reading

Goals: Make first class, Ido program, finish degree

Job before the Navy: Burger King

STUDENT

Name: FCSA Seth Altman

Hometown: Beaufort, S.C.

Age: 25

Previous Command: RTC

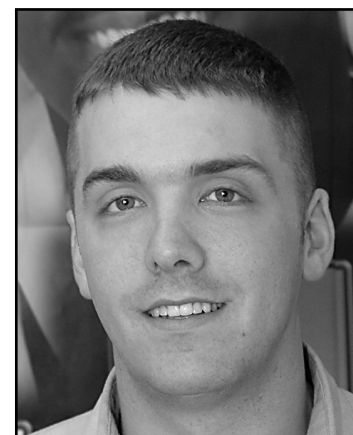
Current School: Graduated FC "A" school

GPA: 87.5

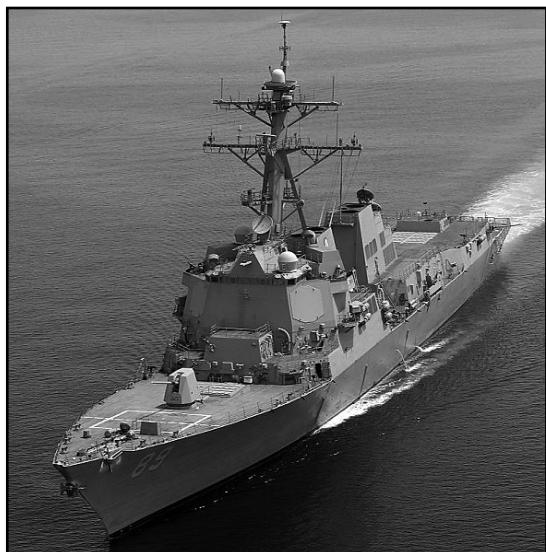
Hobbies: Family, fishing, Hunting, Outdoors

Goals: Retire as an officer

Job before the Navy: Car sales

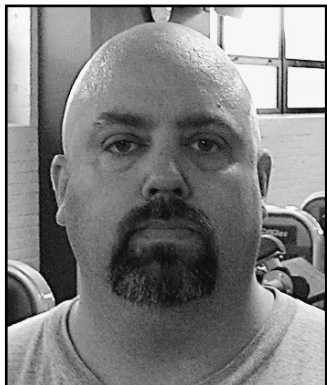


Altman



Readers Speak Out

This week the Bulletin asks its readers, "What sports figure do you most admire and why?"



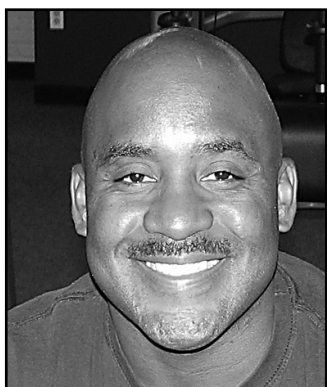
"Pat Tillman, because of his selflessness and duty to country. He was a man of honor."

Derek Hartley



"Dwayne Wade, because he is young and loves to play the game of basketball."

Liz Evans



"Walter Payton, because he was incredible on the field as well as off. He did a lot for other people."

STG1 Darius Brown



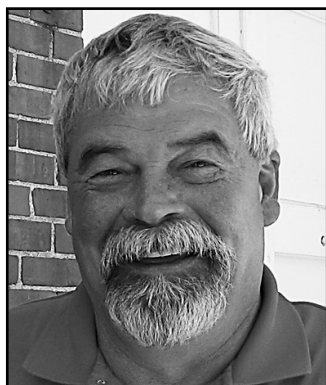
"Michael Jordan, because he retired twice and still helped his team win two more NBA championships."

Clare Durand



"Hank Aaron, because, not only for the home run record, but for the way he represented baseball the way it should."

Pete Hoenig



"Dale Earnhardt, Sr., because he went from rags to riches the hard way."

Dale Ault

What Happened When

A look back at historic Great Lakes

40 years ago HUMAN FLAG FORMED

Tomorrow at 12:45 p.m. 10,000 Great Lakes Navymen wearing "snow white" uniforms, will assemble into companies and march into Chicago's Soldier Field. after, some will don red plastic jerseys while others wrap themselves in blue capes, and, with precise military maneuvers, will form a vast "living flag." Some 100 WAVES will hand out programs.

30 years ago SOFTBALL TOURNAYS SLATED

The 1977 NTC Commander's Cup Softball Tournament will be held June 27-30 on Constitution Field. Team rosters must be submitted to the sports office in Gym 500 prior to 4 p.m. June 21. A meeting for all coaches will be held June 22 at 4 p.m. in Gym 500. Points are awarded to commands for placing and even for just participating.

20 years ago USO STREAMLINING

The United Services Organization is streamlining its overseas operations by eliminating middle-management positions and consolidating some centers "to do the most good for the most people ... to make affiliates more autonomous ... and to avoid duplicating and competing with DoD and private agency services," said USO President Charles T. Hagel.

10 years ago SEABEES BEGIN PROJECT

Sidewalks will be getting a new look at some parts of Great Lakes as CBU-401 personnel undertake a four-month project at Naval Training Center (NTC), Service School Command (SSC), and Recruit Training Command (RTC). "We're covering certain areas within each command," said the Seabees' operations chief BUC Lindell Roberts.

Snapshot

Name:

Jeffery Thompson

Favorite music artist:

Toby Keith

Hometown:

Mountain Home, Idaho

Favorite book:

Dragon Riders of Pern

Job title:

Investigator

If you could meet any person - alive or dead - who would it be?

Paul Revere

Time in position:

Two years

Your perfect day:

One word - Saturday

Childhood ambition:

Be an architect

Your hero:

My wife

First job:

Dairy Queen

What do you enjoy doing in your spare time?

Play with my children

Dream car:

Dodge Viper



Jeffery Thompson

NMCRS volunteers needed

The Great Lakes Navy and Marine Corps Relief Society is looking for volunteers. By volunteering you can help a fellow Sailor or Marine and:

- Receive reimbursement for childcare expenses and mileage.
- Help people with an emergency need.
- Build your resume.
- Develop new skills or improve on existing talents.

They are now interviewing for the following volunteer positions:

•Thrift Shop workers who accept and organize donated items for resale through the NMCRS Great Lakes Thrift Shop.

•Receptionists who provide information, greet clients, and process data.

•Caseworkers who listen to requests, make decisions and disburse funds to meet client needs.

Contact Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society Great Lakes for an application or call for more information at (847) 688-6830.



INFORMATION, TICKETS & TRAVEL

Building 400, 688-3537

Hours of Operation
Mon.-Fri.: 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
Sat.: 9 a.m.-1 p.m.
Sun. & Holidays: Closed

Now on sale...

Six Flags Great America/ Hurricane Harbor Waterpark!

Purchase your daily and season passes for Six Flags Great America, which includes the new Hurricane Harbor Waterpark at the ITT Office.

Admission: \$36 - Adults & Children (Gate Price for adults, \$56.64, for children, \$36.04) 2-Day Pass - \$54 (Gate Price, \$69.94) Season Pass - \$90 per person (Gate Price, \$102.99). Tickets are now on sale at the ITT Office, Bldg. 400-Student NEX Store; Great Lakes Youth Center, Bldg. 2600; The Loft, Bldg. 2A; Zapper's, Bldg.'s 130-H (HCS), 616 and 621; and RTC Recreation Center, Bldg. 1326.

Tickets must be purchased in advance. Discounted tickets are not available at Six Flag's main Gate.

Chicago Cubs Tickets! This could be the year!

-Monday, June 25; 7:05 vs. COL; \$52
 -Tuesday, June 26; 7:05 vs. COL; \$52
 -Wednesday, June 27; 1:20 vs. COL; \$52
 -Friday, June 29; 1:20 vs. MIL; \$52
 -Saturday, June 30; 12:05 MIL; \$52

Going to Disney World...

Are you planning a trip to Walt Disney World? If yes, your entire trip can be planned through your local ITT Office, offering unbeatable deals for "Park Hopper" tickets, hotels and airfare! Call today for more information!

MWR Travel Plus...

The MWR Department's ITT Office operates a full service Leisure Travel Office - MWR Travel Plus! Services:

- Air travel at special Military discounts!
- Emergency and dependant travel!
- Off duty and leave (vacations)!
- Tours and cruises, many at Military discounts!

A "drop phone" is available at the ITT Office, which may be used for travel information anytime during regular operating hours.

MWR Travel Plus may be reached directly at (800) 905-9330. For further information, or to book your "travel" directly on-line, please use the following Web site: www.mwrtravelplus.com.

MWR Travel Plus "In Person" ITT Office Hours (when airline tickets may be purchased) Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays: 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Call 800-905-9330 (toll free number) for those interested in purchasing airline tickets over the phone. Itineraries may be picked up at the ITT Office. Hours the phone service will be in operation: Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m.-5 p.m.

Quality Inn Waukegan offers discount rates to base personnel!

Quality Inn Waukegan is offering low rates to all base personnel, family and friends. Enjoy a complete deluxe continental breakfast bar and newly renovated rooms with special Military rates, located only three miles north of the base at 619 South Green Bay Rd. For reservations, call 662-3200 (Please mention this ad when booking your reservation). www.qualityinnwaukegan.com

Australia...

Planning to visit the land down under? ITT can assist you with airfare, tour packages and 3, 4 and 5 star accommodations at unbelievable prices! Visit the ITT Australia website: www.ittaustralia.com/ or call for details, today!

America's Action Territory

America's Action Territory is the "Midwest's Finest Family Entertainment Center", offering Go-Karts, Bumper Boats, Mini-Golf, and more! Year-round, customers will enjoy a 15,000 foot Arcade/Redemption area, as well as Laser Tag, Inflatables and more! Located in Kenosha, Wis. (off Hwy. 50 and I-94), Action Territory offers a 10% military/government discount with a proper I.D.

Discount Packages...

Wristband Special-3 games of Laser Tag/20 game tokens and a slice of pizza and a soda. Special Navy price = \$12 (reg. price \$15 at the door-savings of \$3)

Kids Indoor Wristband-unlimited use of the indoor inflatable games, 20 game tokens and a slice of pizza and a soda. Special Navy price = \$6 (reg. price \$8 at the door-savings of \$2)

Ramada-Waukegan offers a special \$79 rate

The Ramada-Waukegan, located at 200 N. Green Bay Road, offers all Great Lakes staff, recruits and families a special \$79 rate. Six Flags packages are also available with discounted tickets to the park, hot breakfasts and overnight stays included. Enjoy our variety of amenities: Indoor pool, hot tub, sauna, gift shop, exercise room, restaurant and lounge. Please call (847) 244-2400 to book your next overnight stay at the Ramada-Waukegan.

Military Ticket Vouchers (MTV)

Through the Military Ticket Vouchers (MTV) program, ITT Offices can provide their customers discounted pre-paid admission to theatres, theme parks, museums and other attractions throughout North America. Military Ticket Vouchers can also be used to save significantly on the cost of lodging reservations at hotels and resorts throughout the U.S. Call today to for a list of attractions at 688-3537.

★ ROSS ★ THEATER

Movies: \$2-Adult (Military or DOD)

\$1-Child (ages 6-11), Free-Under age 6

Ross Theater is located in Bldg. 110 and is open to everyone. Children 17 years of age and under trying to gain access to a "R-Rated" movie must be accompanied by an adult.

GREAT MOVIES AT A GREAT PRICE!

**Fri., June 22
6 p.m.**



**Georgia
—Rule**

R~For sexual content and some language. (113 Min.)

**Fri., June 22
8:30 p.m.**



NEXT

PG 13~For intense sequences of violent action, and some language. (96 Min.)

**Sat., June 23
6 p.m.**



**28 WEEKS
LATER**

R~For strong violence and gore, language and some sexuality/nudity. (91 Min.)

**Sat., June 23
8:30 p.m.**



**SPIDER-MAN
3**

PG 13~For sequences of intense action violence. (140 Min.)

**Sat., June 23
10:45 p.m.**

FREE Movie!



**THE TEXAS
CHAINSAW
MASSACRE
—THE BEGINNING—**

R~For strong horror violence/gore, language and some sexual content. (84 Min.)

No Movies Playing on June 24th

The movie schedule is subject to change without notice.

For up-to-date information,
 call the MWR Scoop Line at 688-2110, ext. 697,
 24 hours-a-day or check the web site at

www.mwrgl.com



Fair winds ...



Photo courtesy of NCVAMC

Dick Kutz (right) a volunteer at the North Chicago Veteran's Administration Medical Clinic (NCVAMC) presents Karen Meter who recently retired as the Department of Illinois veterans service officer. Johnnie Allen, retired superintendent of the veterans assistance office of Lake County, assisted. Meter gave many hours in helping retired Navy personnel using the clinic.

● CHAPLAIN'S CORNER

Going through tough times

By LT. CMDR. RUSSELL GRAEF
CHC, USN

Getting Seasick

The first time I got really seasick was in the Sea of Japan. We were underway and got caught in a typhoon.

As the ship started to pitch and roll, the other Sailors on board said, "Chaplain, don't worry, this ship has fin stabilizers!" I had no idea what that was, but they way the said it I guessed it was supposed to help. The water was getting more and more violent. So was my stomach. I wondered when those fin stabilizers were going to start to work.

I spent the next two days violently sick. I heard the groaning of the steel. I felt the ship shudder as the sonar dome rose out of the water and settled back in. Someone once joked about the two stages of seasickness. The first is you hope you don't die; the second is you hope you do. Somewhere between those two stages, I lay in my rack for two days until the storm passed.

When I got up, I saw the COIC for the helicopter detachment on board. He said to me, "Chaplain, you look a little green." Then he told me about how he got over being seasick. He told me that he used to be a helo pilot. He told me that he went to some kind of school where they made him air sick for a whole week.

After that, he never got airsick again. (I don't know if he was pulling my leg or not, but

he described something like that "merry-go-round" scene from the James Bond movie, "Moonraker"). He told me that after you get seasick enough times you don't get seasick anymore.

"It builds character," he said.

Building Character

Saint Paul had another way to build character. Here's what he said: "We rejoice in our suffering because suffering produces endurance and endurance produces character and character produces hope, and this hope does not disappoint us ..." (Romans 5:3-5a). I think about someone like Saint Paul and all the things he suffered. My suffering doesn't seem like much compared to his. He was shipwrecked during a storm (maybe he even got seasick). People threw stones at him and didn't quit until they thought he was dead. He endured hunger. He was thrown in prison. If anyone knew about suffering, Saint Paul did.

My first thought about suffering is to try to avoid it, not to rejoice in it. I can understand how someone would rejoice in God's blessings, or God's love, or God's mercy. But rejoice in suffering? It doesn't seem right. It's kind of like rejoicing in being seasick. But there is a reason why Paul tells us to rejoice in our suffering. It is because suffering gives us the endurance, the character and a hope that we cannot get anywhere else.

After Basic Training, the

graduated Sailors go to their A-Schools to learn their specialty. There are all kinds of A-Schools. We even have a few A-Schools right here at Great Lakes. But the most important A-School we will ever attend is not Navy sponsored. It is the School of Affliction. When we go to the School of Affliction, we learn how to suffer, we learn how to accept disappointment with patience, we learn how to comfort those who are going through a hard time, we learn to look to God for strength. The School of Affliction teaches us a lesson that a life of ease and entertainment can never teach us. If we continually try to avoid suffering or run away from hardship, we will never gain the endurance or character or hope that Saint Paul was talking about. That is why Saint Paul tells us to rejoice in our sufferings.

The Fern and the Bamboo

There is a story about a man who was going through a really hard time. He had been depressed. Nothing was working out for him. He was about to give up on life. So he went into the woods to talk to God. "God," he said, "Can you give me one good reason why I shouldn't give up on life?"

He wasn't expecting it but he heard a voice. It said, "Look around you. Do you see the fern and the bamboo?"

The man said, "Yes."

The voice said, "When I planted the fern and the bamboo, I took very good care of them. I watered them. I gave

them sunlight. I protected them from storms. The fern grew up quickly. It covered the forest floor. But nothing came from the bamboo seed. But I did not quit on the bamboo.

In the second year, the fern grew even bigger than before but nothing came from the bamboo seed. But I did not quit on the bamboo. In year three there was still nothing from the bamboo seed. But I would not quit. In year four, again, there was nothing from the bamboo seed. Still I would not quit."

"Then in the fifth year a tiny sprout emerged from the earth. Compared to the fern it was small and insignificant. But day by day the sprout grew: first a shoot, then a seedling, and finally a cane. Within six months, the bamboo cane had risen to a height of 100 feet. It had spent the five years growing roots. Those roots made it strong and gave it what it needed to survive. I would not give any of my creations a challenge it could not handle."

Then the voice said to the man, "Did you know that all this time you have been struggling, you have been growing; growing the roots that you need to produce your fruit. I would not quit on the bamboo. I will not quit on you."

When we go through tough times, when we suffer, we can remember that God will not give up on us. We know that he is going to use our suffering to give us roots of faith that go down deep to draw strength from the Lord our God.

The CDH in need of Infant Care Homes

Child Development Home (CDH) offers care for small groups of children in a home. CDH is a quality alternative to center based care because of its small group setting and flexible hours. CDH provides a warm family environment where children participate in developmentally appropriate learning activities, as well as home-life experiences. The Child Development Home program is regulated by the Navy Child and Youth Program (CYP) and offers training and ongoing support to providers.

Are you a stay at home spouse? Are you looking for a new rewarding career working with children and providing quality care? Would you like to earn an additional income while staying at home with your own children plus saving the expense of child care? Would you like to earn your Child Development Associate (CDA) and participate in the National Association For Family Child Care (NAFCC) Program! If the answer is yes to these questions, then the Child Development Home Program is for you!

Anyone who lives in military housing who provides child care on a regular basis, full-time or part-time, for more than ten hours a week must be certified by the Navy as a CDH Provider. The CDH Office will assist you through this process to become certified. If you would like more information on becoming a Child Development Home Provider, please call the CDH Program at 688-5498. If you need assistance with your own childcare, please call the Child and Youth Placement Office at 688-3100.

● Command Religious Program Schedule

Catholic

Sun., 9 a.m. Sunday MassBluejacket Memorial Chapel
Sun., Noon Sunday MassForrestal Village Chapel
Mon.-Fri., 11:45 a.m. Weekday MassBluejacket Memorial Chapel
Sun., 10:30-11:30 a.m. CCDBldg. 122
Sun., 10:30 a.m. Catholics Seeking ChristBluejacket Memorial Chapel

Protestant

Wed., Noon Praise, Word and WorshipNaval Health Clinic All Faiths Chapel
Sun., 10:30 a.m. Contemporary WorshipBluejacket Memorial Chapel
Sun., 10 a.m. Family Worship ServiceForrestal Village Chapel

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints

Sun., 1:30 p.m.Naval Health Clinic All Faiths Chapel

Chapels

•Bluejacket Memorial Chapel - Bldg. 3, Naval Station
•Forrestal Village Chapel - Bldg. 2630, Ohio St., Forrestal Village
•Naval Health Clinic All Faiths Chapel, Wing 2 South
•For More Information about any of the services or events listed in this schedule, call 688-5610

Great Lakes chaplains are happy to help you find a place of worship according to your tradition and needs.

● GREAT LAKES MARINA

Bldg. 51 during construction, 688-5417

The hours of operation for the month of June are as follows: Mon.-Sun., 8:30 a.m.-6 p.m.

Upcoming Classes/Camps

Basic Sailing Classes...

Dates:

June 12, 13 & 16

Classes are held on two evening

sessions on Tues. and Wed. from 6:45-9:30 p.m. and one on Sat., which is the on-water practical from 8 a.m.-3:30 p.m. Successful completion of the Class receives a certification from the U.S. Sailing Association and the U.S. Navy Sailing Association. The cost for military personnel is \$115 and DoD

employees are \$140, plus the book, \$14.95.

Intermediate Sailing Classes...

Dates:

June 22 & 23

Classes are held on three evening sessions on Tues. and Wed. from 6:45-9:30 p.m., Friday

from 6-8 p.m. and one morning session on Sat., which is the on-water practical from 8 a.m.-3:30 p.m. This class will teach students how to skipper a large sailboat offshore. The cost for military personnel is \$140 and DoD employees are \$165, plus the book, \$18.

Ask for details...

Junior Sailing Camp!

-July 24-27

Youth Water Sports Camp!

-Aug. 13-16

New Slips!

Moorings & Storage Available
The Great Lakes Marina has completed installing 68 new 4' wide by 30' long slips for the 2007 boating season (space is still available). In addition, a new floating breakwater system was put in to provide necessary protection for your boat mooring. The rate for a season slip is \$750 for military personnel and \$965 for eligible civilians.

Ship's Store

The Marina's Ship Store carries 2007 fishing licenses and stamps, which are necessary to fish legally in the state of Illinois. The licenses/stamps that are available include the Resident Annual, Salmon and Inland Trout. In addition, 24-hour licenses and combination fishing and hunting li-

censes are in stock. Also, the latest information on rules and regulations for fishing in the state of Illinois is available. The Marina's Ship Store also carries the newest boating/fishing equipment and supplies for the upcoming season including live bait: night crawlers, fatheads, minnows and salmon eggs. Other items in stock include bait buckets, dip and landing nets and rods and reels-all at value prices!

Charter Fishing Excursions

MWR's 33' charter fishing boat offers excursions for 5 and 8-hour trips. Reserve your desired date and time by phone or in-person. Lake Michigan fishing charters may be booked for up to six people per charter. The military rate for these trips is \$385 for 5 hours, and \$510 for 8 hours. The civilian rate for these trips is \$430 for 5 hours, and \$575 for 8 hours. The marina will also be offering "walk-up" fishing trip specials for those individuals wanting to go out on a charter trip, but do not have a group of people to make up their own trip. Those dates and times will be made available by calling the Marina. Register today; dates and times for weekend trips fill up quickly. Pleasure cruises may also be booked. Please call the Marina for further details.

Marina getting face lift



Photo by Jim Boylan

Work has begun on the exterior of the Great Lakes Marina, Bldg. 13. The MMB Masonry Restoration of Chicago is working on the grinding and tuck pointing on the outside of the building as part of the \$5.8 million dollar makeover of the boathouse. The project will include a new roof, windows, complete shower facilities and moving the classrooms to the lower level. The project will expand the retail, display and rental area. Electrical wiring throughout the building will be upgraded while keeping the original look of the building that is on the historical register.

● GREAT LAKES FITNESS CENTER

Bldg. 2A, 688-5649

The Great Lakes Fitness Center is a complete, state-of-the-art health and fitness center. Special features of the Center include a "Weight Room" area that packs over 75 weight machines, 4,500 pounds of weight plates, as well as Body Master plate-load equipment. The "Cardio Room" includes Treadmills, Crosstrainers (Ellipticals), Lifecycles, Stepmills and more - complimented by 32" flat screen TV's equipped with "cardio theater" for viewing pleasure while working out. An Aerobics and Spin Studio offers various group exercise classes. Plus, saunas, and locker and towel

services are available. The Naval Hospital Health Promotion Office is also located in the Great Lakes Fitness Center.

Hours...

Mon.-Thurs.	5 a.m.-9:30 p.m.
Fri.	5 a.m.-8 p.m.
Sat.	7 a.m.-6 p.m.
Sun.	11 a.m.-5 p.m.

"Fit over forty" weight training 101 Thurs., June 7 from 4:30-6 p.m. "Circuit Training" presented by certified personal trainers.

Learn how to mix up your workout to include both weight training and cardiovascular activity.

Spend less time with more productivity with your workouts! There is no fee for this program. All eligible fitness members may attend.

Personal Training Program!

"One-on-One" Personal Trainers are now available at the Great Lakes Fitness Center. Both "One Hour" and "Ten Hour" sessions may be booked (by appointment, only). Contact the Fitness Center at 688-2171 for further information and fees.

Aerobics Classes

Aerobics fees apply for all

classes unless otherwise specified. All eligible gym customers are welcome. Classes are subject to change without notice. All classes take place in the Aerobics/Spin Studio at the Great Lakes Fitness Center. There is a fee for all Group Fitness Classes.

Step; Tues. & Thurs., 11:40 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Spin; Classes take place in the Fitness Center's Spinning Studio. Advance sign-ups are recommended for this program. Mon., Wed. and Fri., 11:45 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Mon. and Wed., 5:30-6:15

p.m.

Yoga (Hatha Style), Tues. and Thurs., 6-7 p.m.
Family Yoga, Sat., 9-10 a.m.

Power Lift, Tues. and Thurs., 5-6 p.m.

Try a new workout - Circuit Training!

New Life Fitness 30-Minute Circuit Workout! Our Fitness Floor Staff will put you through a quick, efficient and effective workout using the new Life Fitness Circuit Line!

BOOK REVIEW

Asymmetric warfare and its impact on global terrorism

Reviewed by
LT. CMDR. YOUSSEF ABOUL-ENEIN
MSC, USN

Resisting Rebellion: The History and Politics of Counter-Insurgency by Anthony James Joes. Lexington, Kentucky: The University of Kentucky Press, 2006 paperback edition. 360 pages.

Previous generations of American servicemen and women had the challenge of fascism in World War II, there are those among us who have lived and even stood watch during the bipolar world of the Cold War against the Soviet Union. Today's generation faces the challenges of tribal, nationalist, ethnic and religious wars that threaten the global economic system, coupled with terrorism.

As such we must be connoisseurs of counter-insurgency tactics and history. Professor of political science Anthony James Joes of St. Joseph University has written a book that condenses two and a half centuries of counter-insurgency warfare into a single volume. This is a great start as it combines the background, history, culture and the strategies that worked and failed in insurgency campaigns from the late eighteenth to the twentieth century. Readers will learn about the French Revolutions suppression of the Vendean Revolt, the Philippine Insurgency of 1899 which was America's first real test as a superpower against a jungle insurgency.

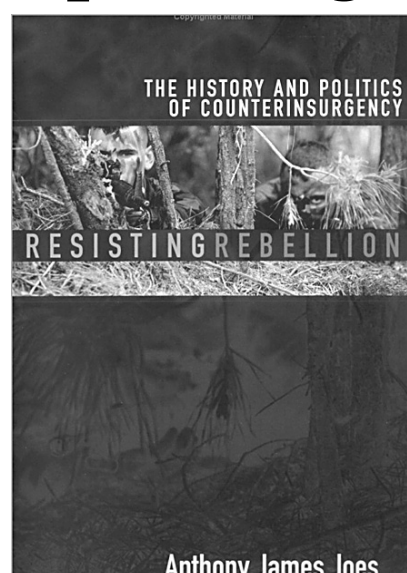
Joes argues that critical segments of U.S. society pay scant attention to the accumulated wisdom on how to and how not to fight guerilla campaigns. The author's central concept is that guerilla insurgency is quintessentially a political

phenomenon, and any effective response must be political as well. Achieving a lasting peace requires military actions involving minimum violence, emphasizing conservative but effective tactics, and by a political program focused on splitting the revolutionary elite from their followers, that is attending to legitimate popular grievances and offering the possibility of reintegration into society for those less committed to expressing their political desires through violence.

The book discusses five major requirements for an effective insurgency; they include morale, infrastructure, leadership, help from outside and base area(s). Impacting a few or all these would degrade the efficacy of an insurgent group. During the French Revolution's Reign of Terror, the regime in Paris imposed a series of edicts against the Church that incited segments of the French population. This escalation between the Catholic Church and Revolutionary Regime would be deepened when Pope Pius VI condemned the Civil Constitution of the Clergy. The response was that the Constituent Assembly demanded every bishop and priest in France swear allegiance to the Civil Constitution. This would mark the end of national unity against the monarchy that brought the French Revolution and the start of a violent civil war.

What is important to learn is that this escalation could have been prevented and national unity preserved, but the actions of the government and church made conflict inevitable.

The book highlights how the French Republic was successful in suppressing the revolt but that it took more troops than in Napoleon's campaign with the exception of the Russian invasion. 100,000 Vendean Rebels clashed in guerilla wars



with under 450,000 troops. The loss of manpower due to death and violence was one of the factors that may have undermined France's edge in the Napoleonic Wars a decade later. The book ties another French guerilla war, Napoleon's war with Spain, as among the causes of Napoleon's defeat in Russia. In this case, the British and Portuguese fueled the insurgency providing support to Spanish guerillas from the sea.

The book discusses little known regional insurgency such as the Thai Communist insurgency that began in 1982. Here the insurgents alienated the Thai public with their criticism of the monarchy and Buddhism, both popular and sacred institutions in Thailand. The communist contempt for these institutions cost them popular support, making it relatively easy for the Thai Army to suppress the movement, despite support from communist neighbors in the north.

The Thai Army sent students to

France, the United States and Britain to learn insurgency operations and came away with valuable lessons on what not to do. They found America's involvement in Vietnam as offering lessons on the over reliance of technology instead of focusing on undermining grassroots support.

Chapters focus on the impact of religion on insurgencies in Sudan, Tibet, and Afghanistan, with the author warning the religious variations of insurgencies offers the gravest challenge of all. Here it is vital to use aspects of that religion to undermine fanatical, intolerant and unacceptable dogma.

The book continues with a detailed examination of French experience in Vietnam and Algeria as well as America's experience in Vietnam. Joes points out that in these cases insurgency warfare was not enough and actually defeated in the case of the French in Algeria and Viet-Cong against the Americans. In Algeria, the battles were won by the French but the political maintenance of Algeria as a colony was considered internationally unacceptable. In Vietnam, the Viet Cong ceased to be an effective fighting force after the Tet Offensive of 1968 and the North Vietnamese relied more on conventional forces the North Vietnamese Army (NVA), in attacking the South Vietnamese forces and their American allies.

Joes' book is an important read for today's Solider, Sailor, Airman or Marine and is an excellent start to begin a journey as a consummate student of asymmetric warfare.

Editor's Note: *Aboul-Enein writes a regular column in three military newspapers in Great Lakes, Quantico and Washington D.C.*

Welcome to Naval Station



Building 1 can be seen in the distance in this 1911 photo of the main entrance to Naval Station Great Lakes. At left is the guardhouse (Bldg. 29), now demolished, one of the original 39 buildings on the base. Brick and terra cotta pylons, linked by decorative iron railings, frame the entranceway.

Trayer commissioned at RTC

NAVAL STATION GREAT LAKES, Ill. – The Vice Chief of Naval Operations, Adm. Patrick M. Walsh, called it “a quantum leap in technology and capabilities in casualty training.”

The commander of Navy Education and Training, Rear Adm. Gary R. Jones, said it was “a vital need for the Navy and America.”

Local U.S. Congressman Mark Kirk, from the 10th congressional district of Illinois, called it the “best training facility on the planet.”

And the more than 250 people in attendance looked on with awe as the newest Arleigh Burke-class destroyer was commissioned at Recruit Training Command June 18.

It was a real commissioning ceremony for the simulated training ship, USS Trayer (BST 21), just like any held in San Diego; Norfolk, Va.; Newport News, R.I.; Groton, Conn.; or Galveston, Texas, where another real Arleigh Burke-class destroyer, USS Kidd (DDG 100), was recently commissioned. But Monday's commissioning was also unique because this new “Tin Can” is the Navy's latest and largest simulator dry-docked inside the USS Iowa complex on RTC.

“This vision (Trayer and Battle Stations 21) has resulted in a multi-sensory simulator incorporating the best special technology from industry. If I did not know better, I would think I was standing on a pier in Norfolk, instead of inside a building in Illinois,” the VCNO said.

Trayer is the Navy's latest training tool and part of Battle Stations 21, a culmination of basic training and the last evolution recruits accomplish before they graduate.

“This is a very special day to be a Sailor and a great day to be a member of the Navy and Marine Corps team. It's a special day because today is a chance to honor the recruits that will use this great facility to become Sailors,” Jones said.

“These Sailors are what today is about. They are part of America's new ‘Greatest Generation’ – a generation that sees the atrocities being done in the world, steps up and says, ‘Not on my watch!’”

Jones called Trayer and Battle Stations 21 an invaluable tool in training and testing each recruit.

“America needs a combat-ready naval force capable of winning wars, deterring aggression, preserving the freedom of the seas, and promoting peace and security,” he said.

“(Thanks to facilities like Trayer and those who work here,) we are and will remain a warfighting, seagoing service.”

Before recruits graduate from boot camp, they spend an entire night on board Trayer loading stores, getting underway, handling mooring lines, manning general quarter stations, stopping floods and combating shipboard fires. It is as close to being underway as a recruit can get before they receive orders to their first ship. It is also considered the final evaluation of a recruit's reactions in tight situations and a chance for the recruit to see how far they have come in their training.

See TRAYER, page 35

By SCOTT A. THORNBLOOM
NSTC Public Affairs Office



Lt. Joseph Dolsak conducts the Navy Ceremonial Band Great Lakes before a commissioning ceremony for the Navy's newest simulator at Recruit Training Command June 18. Trayer along with Battle Stations 21, where the commissioning crewmembers work as facilitators, is the culmination of all training received at the Navy's only boot camp. It is a grueling 12-hour test, now held entirely in the Arleigh Burke-class destroyer simulator, of a recruit's skills in several shipboard evolutions, including fighting fires and stopping floods. It is also the final evolution that marks the recruit's final rite of passage into the Navy. (Photo by Scott A. Thornbloom, Naval Service Training Command Public Affairs Office)



USS Trayer (BST 21) crewmembers stand at ease before a commissioning ceremony for the Navy's newest simulator at Recruit Training Command June 18. (Photo by Scott A. Thornbloom)



(Above) QMCS(SW) Anthony Kachinsky prepares to raise the commissioning pennant onboard USS Trayer (BST 21), the Navy's newest simulator, at Recruit Training Command June 18. (Photo by MC1 J. W. Thompson, Great Lakes Naval Station, Ill.)



Rear Adm. Arnold O. Lotring, Commander Naval Service Training Command and host of the commissioning, spoke about the importance USS Trayer will provide for the effective training of Sailors headed to the fleet.



(Right) Crewmembers race across the brow of USS Trayer (BST 21) to man the rails during a commissioning ceremony for the Navy's newest simulator at Recruit Training Command June 18. (Photo by MC1 J. W. Thompson, Great Lakes Naval Station, Ill.)